

You Are a Citizen **Philippians 3:17-21**

Main Point:

Let your heavenly citizenship affect how you live in this world and think of the next.

1. In Christ, you are a citizen of heaven.

2. Your citizenship should affect how you live in this world.

3. Your citizenship should affect how you think of the next world.

Ephesians 2:12 12 ... At that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. (NKJV)

Ephesians 2:19 19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, (NKJV)

1 John 2:15-16 15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that *is* in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. (NKJV)

1 Peter 2:11 11 Beloved, I beg *you* as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, (NKJV)

John Gill “[These lusts] are not to be obeyed and served, or lived unto, but to be denied and crucified, being unsuitable to the character of strangers and pilgrims.”

John 15:19 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. (NKJV)

Matthew Henry “Whom Christ blesseth the world curseth. The favourites and heirs of heaven have never been the darlings of this world.”

Revelation 2:10 10 Do not fear any of those things which you are about to suffer ... Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life. (NKJV)

Matthew 6:19-20 19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. (NKJV)

Colossians 3:1-2 1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. (NKJV)

Hebrews 11:14-16 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that *country* from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly *country* ... (NKJV)

C.S. Lewis “Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy [my desire], but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing. If that is so, I must take care, on the one hand, never to despise, or be unthankful for, those earthly blessings, and on the other, never to mistake them for the something else of which they are only a kind of copy or echo or mirage. I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country ...”

Hebrews 10:34 34 ... You had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven. (NKJV)

Rhett Dodson “If we would only remember that we are sojourners! How much more lightly would we invest in the things of this world and how much more would we set our hearts on our heavenly home!”